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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
9 AT SEATTLE

10 REGENCY CLEANERS
11 ENTERPRISES LLC,

Plaintiff,

12 v.

13 TRAVELERS CASUALTY
14 INSURANCE COMPANY OF
15 AMERICA,

Defendant.

CASE NO. C19-0040JLR

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
REGARDING SUBJECT
MATTER JURISDICTION

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17 Before the court is Defendant Travelers Casualty Insurance Company of
18 America's ("Travelers") notice of removal. (*See* Not. of Rem. (Dkt. # 1).) The court has
19 reviewed the notice of removal, the complaint, the amended complaint, and Plaintiff
20 Regency Cleaners Enterprises, LLC's ("Regency") corporate disclosure statement (Plf.
21 CDS (Dkt. # 6)) and finds that Travelers has failed to provide an adequate basis for
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1 subject matter jurisdiction over this action. The court therefore orders Travelers within
2 seven (7) days of the date of this order to serve and file a submission as described below.

3 The removal statute is strictly construed against removal jurisdiction, and a
4 removing defendant bears the burden of establishing grounds for federal subject matter
5 jurisdiction in the case. *Cal. ex rel. Lockyer v. Dynegy, Inc.*, 375 F.3d 831, 838 (9th Cir.
6 2004). In its notice of removal, Travelers invokes the court's diversity jurisdiction. (Not.
7 of Removal at 2-3 (citing 28 U.S.C. § 1332).) A federal court's diversity jurisdiction
8 extends to "all civil actions where the matter in controversy exceeds . . . \$75,000 . . . and
9 is between . . . citizens of different States." 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1). "In cases where
10 entities rather than individuals are litigants, diversity jurisdiction depends on the form of
11 the entity." *Johnson v. Columbia Props. Anchorage, LP*, 437 F.3d 894, 899 (9th Cir.
12 2006).

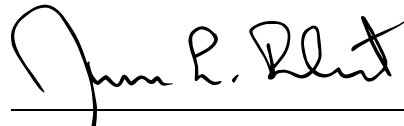
13 Here, Travelers states that it is "a corporation organized and duly registered under
14 the laws of the state of Connecticut, having its principle place of business in Hartford,
15 Connecticut." (Not. of Removal at 2.) Travelers further states that Regency is "a
16 corporation organized and duly registered under the laws of the state of Washington,
17 having its principal place of business in King County, Washington. (*Id.*) However,
18 Regency does not appear to be a corporation, but rather a limited liability company. (*See*
19 Plf. CDS.) Indeed, in its corporate disclosure statement Regency states that "Shallina
20 Lakhani, Shabana Ahmad, and Kamal Uddin are members of Regency Cleaners
21 Enterprises, LLC." (*Id.* at 1.)

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1 For purposes of assessing diversity jurisdiction, the court must consider the
2 domicile of all members of a limited liability company. *Johnson*, 437 F.3d at 899; *see*
3 *also* Local Rules W.D. Wash. LCR 8(a). Travelers has failed to allege the domicile or
4 citizenship of each of Regency's members—specifically, Shallina Lakhani, Shabana
5 Ahmad, and Kamal Uddin. Absent representations concerning the citizenship of all of
6 Regency's members, the court cannot determine if Travelers has properly invoked this
7 court's subject matter jurisdiction.

8 Accordingly, the court ORDERS Travelers to SHOW CAUSE why this case
9 should not be dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. If Travelers fails to
10 provide the court with the information described above within seven (7) days of the date
11 of this order, the court will remand this action to state court. Regency may, but is not
12 required to, respond to the court's order to show cause within the same timeframe.

13 Dated this 26th day of February, 2019.

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16 JAMES L. ROBART
17 United States District Judge
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